

visit India, which they had accepted. However, no dates have yet been, fixed for the visit.

MILITARY AID TO PAKISTAN

204. SHRI S. SUPAKAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the military aid received by Pakistan from different countries of the world after the cease-fire agreement; and

(b) if so, the nature of the aid received and the reaction of the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). There have been reports that Pakistan has received some military equipment from some countries, but the correctness of this information has still to be verified.

AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE EXCHANGE AT RAJKOT

205. SHRI J. H. JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new building has been constructed for housing automatic telephone exchange at Rajkot; and

(b) if so, what has been the cost of the building?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): (a) Yes.

(b) Estimated cost is Rs. 6,94,600.

TRANSFER OF OFFICERS

206. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any officers in the Indian Telephone Industries,

Doorvaninagar, Bangalore who have put in more than seven years of continuous service in the same factory;

(b) if so, what is the number of such officers; and

(c) what are the reasons for not transferring them according to the usual practice?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): (a) and (b). In the Indian Telephone Industries Limited, Bangalore, there are six officers borrowed from Government who have put in more than seven years of continuous service in the same factory.

(c) Because of their experience and suitability for the specific posts held by them and non-availability of suitable trained officers in the Company's cadre, these officers have not been transferred.

DECASUALISATION OF LABOUR IN THE DOCKS

207. SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the whole of labour employed in the docks is casual;

(b) whether there has been any decasualization of such labour; and

(c) if so, at what rate per year does this decasualization take place?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA): (a) No.

(b) The Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Schemes have been framed for decasualisation of dock labour of the Ports of Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Cochin, Vizagapatam and Mormugao. The Schemes provide for registration of dock labour. So far about 22,000 workers have been decasualised under these Schemes.